

**Cities for  
Sustainability  
Governance**

# How SDGs can be used strategically by cities

1<sup>st</sup> Webinar | 23 May 2024

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Expert

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# About our network

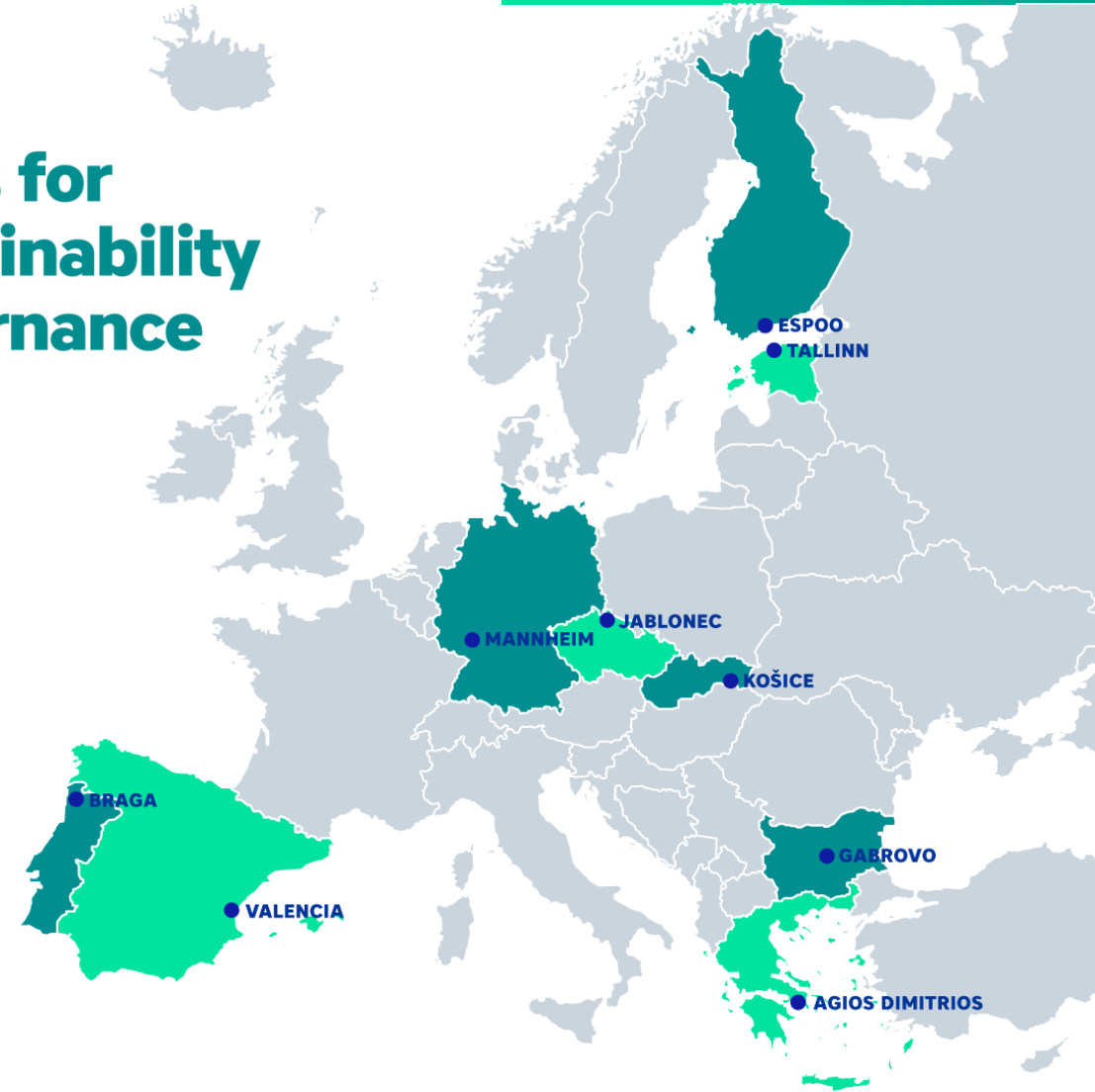
Lead Partner: **Espoo**, Finland

City population 305 200

Partners:

- **Agios Dimitrios**, Greece  
City population 71 747
- **Braga**, Portugal  
City population 182 679
- **Gabrovo**, Bulgaria  
City population 62 763
- **Jablonec**, Czech Republic  
City population 44 365
- **Kosice**, Slovakia  
City population 228 070
- **Mannheim**, Germany  
City population 309 370
- **Tallinn**, Estonia  
City population 438 341
- **Valencia**, Spain  
City population 801 545

## Cities for Sustainability Governance (CSG)



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Project period: June 2023-Dec 2025

# From top-down approach to dialogue driven

1. ...Cities are urged to set **ambitious goals** for climate and biodiversity while managing social and economic sustainability..
2. ...The UN **Sustainable Development Goals** are a great fit for cities to measure present state and build future action and governance..
3. ...The urgency of action is understood on theoretical level, but it does not resonate with **operational level realities** and everyday work of cities..



# Focus on the “how”

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**Using SDGs as a guiding framework** to set a shared direction locally and focus on holistic sustainability.



Exploring how cities can **work better together with local partners and communities.**



**Supporting city organisations** to make sustainable development part of people’s everyday job and mindset.



Alignment, coordination and **collaboration across government levels**, as well as EU and UN.

## Our journey in a Nutshell

- 1 Baseline study
- Quarterly reports
- 6 Core Network Meetings
- 1 final event
- Bilateral city exchanges
- 9 Local Action Plans to be made
- 2+ Public Webinars
- Participation in events (e.g. WUF)
- 1 final product – NOT another guidebook

# Shaping our city stories

*“I always say that the SDGs are our ‘way to quality of life’, so that when we are fulfilling the goals, we are trying to create conditions for people to be happier in our city and to have better quality of life”.*

*Ricardo Rio, Mayor of Braga*



# Shaping our city stories

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*“To motivate others, you first need to understand your own motivation. When I ask, ‘What drives your desire and vision for your project’, I don’t hear formal outlines, I hear stories”.*

*Dr Barbara Karanian, Stanford University*



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# Shaping our City Stories

an event series by the URBACT Cities for Sustainability Governance network

23rd of  
May

**How SDGs can be used strategically by cities**, webinar

featuring UN Habitat, URBACT and the Cities for Sustainability Governance network

16-17  
June

**Mayor level meeting, Mannheim**

Stay  
tuned!

**Other series will be revealed soon, stay tuned!**



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# Cities for Sustainability Governance

## Follow us!



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<https://urbact.eu/networks/cities-sustainability-governance>

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